



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/101,132	06/30/98	TSUJI	S 760248P VB

002292 HM12/0721  
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EXAMINER
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EPPS, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1635

11

DATE MAILED: 07/21/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks



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EXAMINER

Janet Epps

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The finality of the prior Office Action mailed 1/21/2000 is hereby withdrawn. Applicants have met their burden for responding to this Office Action by the filing of an Amendment on 6/21/2000. However, due to the pending publication of a potential prior art reference, *ex parte* prosecution is **SUSPENDED**. Applicant may inquire as to the status of this application after six months.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janet L. Epps whose telephone number is (703) 308-8883. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Elliott, can be reached at (703) 308-4003. The fax number for this group is (703) 305-7939.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Janet L. Epps, Ph.D.

July 20, 2000

George C. Elliott, Ph.D.  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 1600